

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649
PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Auditorium
February 16, 2022**

MINUTES

I. *The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mrs. Nichols.*

II. *The Flag Salute was led by Mr. Griffin.*

III. *The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mrs. Nichols.*

All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Oradell. Notice of this meeting was filed with The Record and Town News and all persons requesting such notice.

IV. *The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Derian*

The Oradell Public School District is dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of educational excellence through comprehensive innovative curriculum and instruction. The District is committed to providing opportunities for social, emotional, and academic discovery to foster curiosity, courage, and character. Our goal is to prepare our students to become life-long learners who are self-directed, resilient, productive responsible citizens.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education March 27, 2019

V. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mrs. Acosta, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Shapiro, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols. Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Absent: Mrs. Norian

Also present were John M. Marmora, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Megan Bozios, Superintendent, 1 member of the Administration and approximately 73 members of the public (11 in person: 62 virtual).

VI. **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None**

VII. **BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

Mrs. Nichols extended her gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the Board to John Marmora, Business Administrator, and the Business Office Team on a great audit report. Mrs. Nichols informed the committees list has been updated.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Bozios mentioned last night was the first time since 2019 the OPS had an in person choral concert. Also, after school today the Student Government counted 403 pairs of pajamas as part of OPS Wear a Pair Share a Pair Event. It was nice to have the return of in person events.

Ms. Bozios reported on the accomplishments through Covid protocol put in place since the return to school. Ms. Bozios reported on tonight's Covid Task Force meeting and the District's standing on current Covid issues due to changes in State guidance. She is optimistic we are in a place where we could continue to move forward. A revision to OPS protocol plans will be communicated in the upcoming weeks.

IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Jeffrey Bliss, partner of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP, presented to the Board regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Audit's Management Report on Administrative Findings for the year ending June 30, 2021. The District received a clean and unmodified opinion on the financial statements, compliance on major federal and state programs, compliance on government auditing standards, and on internal controls over financials reporting. The Districts is in very sound stable financial condition.

Mr. Walsh asked why the audit was given to the Board of Education in February, which is a later date than usual. Mr. Bliss responded.

Mr. Marmora thanked Mr. Bliss and the audit team for the continued guidance and help during the year. He also thanked the Board and Superintendent for their support and the Business Office staff for a job well done.

X. MINUTES

A motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Walker, the approval of the 1/5/2021 Meeting Minutes and the review of Meeting Minutes of 1/26/22 were approved and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0. Mrs. Norian was absent.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

- January 26, 2022 Work/Business Section

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- January 5, 2022 Work/Business Section

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS/ SAFETY- Mr. Derian, Chairperson

Mr. Derian reported the committee will meet with LAN for the initial review of the auditorium project on Friday.

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 the Board approved B1. Mrs. Norian was absent.

B1. Use of School Facilities- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following requests for use of school facilities for the **SY 2021-2022** in accordance with **Board Policy #1330**:

#	Organization	Event	Area of Building	Dates)	Time	Custodian OT	Facility Charge
1	Oradell PTA (Category A)	Shop Local Event	Front & Side Lawns	2/11/22 Fri.	2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	-0-	-0-
2	Oradell Public School (Category A)	Bergen County Prosecutor Cyber Safety Presentation to Parents	Auditorium	3/1/22 Tue.	7:00 P.M.	-0-	-0-
3	Oradell Boy & Cub Scouts (Category A)	Cub Scout/Boy Scout Crossover Ceremony	Auditorium	3/18/22 Fri.	7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.	-0-	-0-
4	Oradell Public School (Category A)	HoOPS Basketball Program	Gym	3/25/22, 4/1/22, 4/8/2, 4/22/22, 4/29/22, 5/6/22, 5/13/22, 5/20/22, 5/27/22 Fri.	2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	-0-	-0-

**All organizations have been informed about the Governor's indoor mask executive order.*

C. CURRICULUM- Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

Mrs. Shapiro noted it was wonderful to see Odyssey of the Mind will attend the tournament in person.

A motion by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 the Board approved C1. Mrs. Norian was absent.

- C1. Approval of Field Trip(s) – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the following field trip(s) for **SY 2021-2022**:

Destination	Grade	Date	Cost to District	Cost to Parents
Odyssey of the Mind Regional Tournament (Millburn, NJ)	5 & 6	February 2022	\$75 (Tournament Fee) \$150 (Faculty Stipend) \$800 Maximum (Prop Transportation)	\$0

D. FINANCE/ TECHNOLOGY- Mrs. Shapiro, Chairperson

Mrs. Shapiro reported on the last two Finance Committee meetings. Topics included 2022-2023 preliminary budget, June 30, 2021 Audit Report, technology expenditures, and Summer Exploration Program. Mrs. Shapiro congratulated Mr. Marmora on an excellent 2021 Audit.

A motion by Mrs. Shapiro, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 the Board approved D1-D12. Mrs. Norian was absent.

- D1. Hand Check Payroll Register for **January 28, 2022**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board retroactively approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for January 28, 2022 in the amount of **\$374,591.34**
- D2. Hand Check Payroll Register for **February 15, 2022**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board retroactively approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for February 15, 2022 in the amount of **\$378,900.97**.
- D3. Check Register for **February 10-16, 2022** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board approves the disbursements on the **February 10-16, 2022** Check Register in the amount of **\$703,086.71** check numbers **001568, 990064-990066** and **022655 – 022704**. **(Void 022652-022654)**.
- D4. Approval of the **Financial Reports** of the Board Secretary and Treasurer – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the Report of the Board Secretary, A148, and the Treasurer, A149, as of **January 31, 2022**.
- D5. **Transfer of Funds** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the Monthly Transfers Report as of **January 31, 2022**, in accordance with Title 18A:22-8.1 and furthermore, designates the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make budget transfers between line items, and to make additional transfers as necessary between monthly meetings of the Board.
- D6. **Monthly Budgetary Line Item Certification** – RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (c)

3 as of **January 31, 2022**, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (a) ; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 that after review of the Board Secretary's Report (A148) and Treasurer's Report (A149) and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

D7. **Approval to Award a Contract to R.D. Sales Door and Hardware, LLC.** – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves R.D. Sales Door & Hardware, LLC. to **furnish and install metal doors in the basement** through the Educational Data Services, Inc. time & material awarded bid #10405 at the purchase price of **\$14,852.00**.

D8. **Approval of Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) waiver for SY 2022-2023** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Oradell Public School District approves the following:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2022-2023 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Oradell Borough Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen, an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2022-2023 school year.

D9. **Approval of Legal Cost Per Pupil Indicator** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves the following:

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education recognizes that the legal costs per pupil for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year exceeded 130% of the Statewide per pupil average and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education has undertaken steps to reduce these costs by restricting access to the Board Attorney to only authorized personnel and having the Superintendent and Business Administrator review every legal bill before payment and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education has determined that implementation of further procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)(3) beyond the

aforementioned procedures already implemented would not significantly reduce legal costs, as evidenced by the fact that the excess legal costs incurred are the result of a litigation, grievances, protracted negotiations, and/or due process hearings initiated against the District, which the District has been compelled to defend and over which the District has no control;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that the Oradell Board of Education hereby accepts the 2020-21 legal costs as meeting the criteria for controlling legal costs and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board will look for more ways to reduce these costs should the opportunity present itself.

D10. Acceptance and Approval of 2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report -

It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board accept and approve the 2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial report and the Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings, containing three audit recommendations to be addressed, as prepared by the firm of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP:

Facilities and Capital Assets

1. **Finding** –Our audit revealed capital asset accounting records were not updated on an annual basis.

Recommendation –District's capital asset accounting records be updated timely.

D11. Acceptance and Approval of 2020-2021 Corrective Action Plan - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board accept and approve the Corrective Action Plan prepared by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary in response to the 2020-2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) recommendation, for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education.

D12. Approval of an Agreement for School Musical Services with All the World's a Stage – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves an agreement with All the World's a Stage to provide school musical services for the **2022 OPS Musical at an amount not to exceed \$11, 000.00 funded through Student Activities Account.**

E. NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT- Mr. Walsh, Delegate

Mr. Walsh noted there will be a Legislative Meeting on 2/26/2022 but he won't be able to attend because he will be participating as a judge in the Odyssey of the Mind Tournament.

F. PERSONNEL- Mrs. Walker, Chairperson

A motion by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 the Board approved F1. Mrs. Norian was absent.

F1. It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accepts and approves the Personnel Committee Report dated **February 16, 2022**.

G. **POLICY-** Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Chairperson - *None*

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson – *None*

I. **COVID-19 TASK FORCE-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson - *None*

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Chris Nutland, 259 Morris St., provided a statement on the education and emotional effects masks have had on Children and all the sacrifices the children have had to make while wearing them.

Mr. Vince Scalcione, 102 Beverly Rd., stated data to allow the children to be mask optional.

Ms. Lisa Ballerini, 319 Grove St., commented on the masks protocols and is looking forward to mask optional.

Mr. Donald Lupone, 861 O'Connell Pl., expressed his optimism to move forward with mask optional.

Ms. Cynthia Khoury, 690 Park Ave., stated masks have affected her son making friends.

Mrs. Nichols thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and encouraged the public to attend all of the meetings. We all want the same for the children.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Derian thanked Mr. Griffin for being the chair of Covid Task Force. A lot of time and planning is put into these meetings. Mr. Griffin thanked the Administration and the members of the Task Force Committee for their support and flexibility these issues require.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam asked about resolution D8. Mr. Marmora responded. Mrs. Walker thanked Mr. Marmora and the Business Office Staff for the excellent Audit Report.

XV. CLOSED SESSION

A motion by Mr. Walsh, and seconded by Mrs. Walker, the board entered closed session at 8:35 pm. and carried a roll call vote of 8-0. Mrs. Norian was absent

WHEREAS, a matter to be considered by the Board of Education deals with student safety issues, and

WHEREAS, public disclosure of this matter may be prejudicial to the public good,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this matter be considered in a meeting closed to the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minutes of this meeting be sealed until the matter is resolved.

A motion by Mr. Walsh, and seconded by Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, to exit closed session at 9:07pm, and carried a roll call vote of 8-0. Mrs. Norian was absent.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Mr. Walsh, and seconded by Mrs. Walker, and carried a roll call vote of 8 -0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m. Mrs. Norian was absent.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Marmora
Business Administrator/Board Secretary